

REMARKS

1. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

(a) The patent office rejected claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, based on the assertion that the specification, while being enabling for a method for treating alopecia, does not enable for a method for preventing alopecia. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. The specification provides adequate enablement for a method comprising administering recited compounds for preventing alopecia (see Example 1 on page 18, for preventing chemotherapy-induced alopecia). However, solely in order to expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Applicants have amended claim 16 to cancel “or preventing” as requested by the Action. The Applicants thus respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

(b) The patent office rejected claims 1-4 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, based on the assertion that the specification only enables the use of active agents of at least 7 contiguous amino acids according to the methods of the invention. The Applicants traverse this rejection, but have nonetheless amended claim 1 to include the limitation of claim 5 and canceled claims 2-9 to obviate the rejection. The Applicants thus respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

2. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

(a) The patent office rejected claims 6-10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness based on use of the phrase "consisting essentially of." The Applicants traverse this rejection, but have nonetheless canceled claims 6-9 and have amended claim 10 to obviate the rejection. The Applicants thus respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

Based on all of the above the Applicants believe that the application is in condition for

allowance and respectfully request that the application be processed for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone or personal interview would expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (312) 913-2106.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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